# The National Republican.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 15' 1884.

THREE CENTS.

## CONCEALED CRIME.

Even Murder Can Be Committed and Nothing Said About It.

Chief Dye Again Refuses to Produce the Records of His Office,

And the Community Can Only Speculate as to Their Dark Contents.

The Daily Doings of Professional Crooks of all Grades.

The community is in hearty, honest sympathy with THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN in its efforts to purify the administration of the police department. The refusal of the chief of police to permit an inspection of the record of crimes committed in the district has aroused universal suspicion and district. When Maj. Dye was put at the head of the force about a year ago it was hoped and believed that a great and wholesome revolution would be wrought in the department. The hope has not been realized. The persistent and illegal refusal of the chief of police to permit the publication of an official catalogue of crimes committed during this past year is interpreted as a confession of inability to detect criminals or prevent crime. Washington to all appearances has become the most secure haven for criminals in the United States.

A HIDDEN MURDER.

A HIDDEN MURDER.

It is, perhaps, fortunate for police head-quarters that the decay of time and the enward march of events have "turned down," in the language of the burglar, many clews to a hidden and horrible crime which was perpetrated in nearly the center of Washington. The crime, if reports are true, was nothing less than a cold-blooded murder, the victim of which was buried in one of the district cemeteries without headboard to mark his resting place or to give a clew to the dark events. A REPUBLICAN reporter having located the scene of the hidden murder among the frame and brick shantics on the flats south of the capitol building, and the time of its occurrence as about eight the flats south of the capitol building, and the time of its occurrence as about eight months ago, went to work to ferret outs matter that had escaped the "vigilance" of the police headquarters and the de-ectives. Enough evidence was found o establish the fact that during a amily quarrel one of the male mem-sers had been struck on the head with a hammer and his skull fractured, causing in-tent death. Also that the murdered man stant death. Also that the murdered man had been buried on a physician's certificate of pulmonary disease. The wound on his skull was concealed by a haudkerchief, which was was conceased by a matherenie, which was used ostensibly to keep the mouth of the corpse closed. This is a "pointer" for Maj. Dye and his "fly cops." If the "pointer" is not enough, maybe the reporters of the REPUBLICAN can give more information about the "hidden crime."

A BIGGER MAN THAN UNCLE SAM "Maj. Dye," said a reporter of THE REPUB-LICAN posterday afternoon, "will you be kind enough to give me ast order on the lieutenant

enough to give me att order on the lieutenant of detectives for the production of the complaint book, otherwise called the 'blotter,' for my inspection?"

"Naw," said Maj. Dyo. The great man was sitting behind his flat desk in the middle of his apartments at police headquarters. He had a pad of writing paper in one hand and in the other a long and sharp lead pencil, the point of which was resting upon the paper, but the great man was not making any marks. He was leaning back in his easy chair and appeared to be musing. His eyes seamed to be fixed upon the point of that pencil. They glinted upward for the small fractional part of an instant as the reporter spoke to him, and then resumed the contemplation of that pencil point. His manner and tone him, and then resumed the contemplation of that pencil point. His manner and tone were those of a man at least aunoyed, not to say angered, by an unwarrantable intrusion of an insignificant citizen upon his august official presence.

In the most humble manner, such as befitted a simple, untitled, ununiformed civil-ian in the presence of a really great man like the chief of police, the reporter said, choosing his words carefully, so as, if possible, not to offend the great man, "But I understand that by law I am entitled, during business hours, to the inspection of that book."

to the inspection of that book."
"You can't see it, I tell you," said the
major, with increased asperity of manner and
acidity of tone, "You came here the other
day after that book, and I told you that you couldn't see it. 'Toat's all I've got to say on that subject."

The major continued the contemplation of his pencil point, but his heart did not seem to be in the contemplation. He looked really vexed. The reported braced himself, so that the slight breeze of indignation of offended dignity should not blow him through the door, and inquired, "Don't you know, major, that the law expressly says that the complaint book shall be open to public inspection?"

"i've got nothing more to say upon the sub-ject," and the great man. "I tell you that you can t see the book. That's all there is of I shall say no more on the subject.

The manner in which there sentences were uttered would have been characterized in a man less really great, as snappish. The major having thus put himself on a plane away above and beyoud all written law of these United States, of course the interview ended. If The REPUBLICAN can find anywhere in holy writ a command for the production of the "blotter," there will be another interview with Maj. Dye. If the major de-clines to be guided even by divine law there will seem to be no other course left for the humble citizens o Washington but to wait patiently for the major to die. Following is the extract from the revised statutes of the United States to which the

reporter referred in his conversation with Maj. Dye. The major is understood not to question the authenticity of the statutes but to deny, in practice, that the United States

has any power over him :

has any power over him:

S.C. 250. It is board or police shall cause to be kept the following books and records, namely:

First, General complaint books, in which shall be entered every complaint books, in which shall be entered every complaint preferred upon personal knowledge of the dictumstances thereof, with the name and residence of the complainant, second, Books of registry of lost, missing, resonen property, for the general convenience of the pulled and of the police of the district.

Third, Books of records of the police, wherein shall be entered the name of every member of the police force, with the time and piace of his nativity, and the time when he became a citizon, after which the police force, with the time and piace of his nativity, and the time when he became a citizon, after the was born out of the United States; his age, his former occupation, number and residence of his nativity, and the time when he became a citizon, after office, with the cause of the latter. And in every such record sufficient space shall be left against all such entries wherein to make record of the number of arrests made by such member of the police force, or of any special service deemed meritorious by the commissioners of telice.

Exc. 201. The board of police shall also cause to

vite: deemed meritorious of the cause to fulce.
SR. of. The board of police shall also cause to be kept in proper books the accounts of the treasurer of the board, and all receipts of moneys, or warrants, or checks for moneys shall be written warrants or thecks for moneys shall be written. oks kept for the purpose, and the receipt be signed in every case by the person fe-ing money, warrants, or checks from the

treasurer.

SEC. 388. The board of police shall also cause to be kept in proper books the number of the several aveilings of the board.

SEC. 389. All the books mentioned in the three preceding sections shall be, at all business hours, and when not in actual use, open to public inspection.

A FEW SPLINTERS.

Several weeks ago the capitol police, after weeks of labor, captured a man who had committed a most despicable crime. The brute was taken to the Seventh precinct station house and incarcerated. When the lieution house and incarcerated. When the lieution house and incarcerated.

tenant arrived at the station house he released the man on \$10 collateral. On the
following day the matter was brought to
Judge Snell's attention. He expressed great
indignation that the offender had been released and at once ordered the issuance of a
bonch warrant for him. Up to this writing
there has been no arrest.

About 4:30 Thursday afternoon a man was
arrested by Officer Slack on the Bladensburg
road, above the boundary, for what the officer
deamed a breach of the peace. The officer
led his prisoner to H street and the boundary,
at which point he released his prisoner and
telling him, in a patronizing way, that he
could go. The man under arrest protested
against being released, and defied the officer
to take him to the station house. This the
blue coat refused to do. The man says he will
bring charges against the officer.

About two weeks ago the residence of Mr.
Simpson, 1243 Four-and-a-half street southwest, was visited by a big, black burglar, who
tried to effect an entrance but failed. Mr.
Simpson is employed by the Western Union
Telegraph converse.

west, was visited by a big, black burglar, who tried to effect an entrance but failed. Mr. Simpson is employed by the Western Union Telegraph company. Full discription furnished to "headquarters." No arrests.

The residence of Mrs. Sayres, 428 First street southeast, was entered several days ago by thieves and valuable property stolen. The matter was reported to the police. No arrests. A "press gaug" has operated extensively in this city for over a year. During that time several respectable colored men were seized in broad daylight, taken to the wharves, and sent to the Lower Potemac, where they were "pressed" into the Chesapeake cyster dredging business, and kept in enforced servitude for several months. A hint to headquarters. Several friends of Capt. Howgate, the escaped defaulter, declare that he has been in Several friends of Capt. Howgate, the escaped defaulter, declare that he has been in this city several times during the past few weeks. On one occasion he boldly entered a cigar store and bought some goods. Howgate is well known in this city, and his photograph is displayed at "headquarters."

The residence of Mr. Frank D. Cleary, the auctioneer, 1229 Thirteenth street, was entered several days ago and \$300 worth of jewelry and \$150 in money was stolen. The fact was suppressed by "headquarters." No arrests.

The residence of Mr. George N. Much, 508 Fifth street southeast, was entered through a back window Thursday night. Twenty dol-lars in money sud other articles were stolen.

No arrests.

A sneak thief entered the residence of Mary E. Bowdan, 1203 Seventh street northwest, Thursday night, and stole a lady's gold chain, a gold pin, charm, ring, clothing, and other articles. The police were notified. No

arrests.

Mr. Robert Alexander the scientist, was

Mr. Robert Alexander the scientist, was robbed of \$30.45 in a street car. A full description of the thief was furnished to a policeman. No arrests.

About one month ago the the dry goods store of A. Young & Bro., 3037 M street, was entered by professional thieves and robbed of over \$90. The facts were suppressed by the robbe. No arrests.

AS USUAL, HE DIDN'T KNOW.

"Haven't heard of anything," was Maj.
Dye's responses to a Republican reporter's
inquiry for news yesterday. The major's
left leg hung pendant over the arm of his
chair, while sitting opposite to him was a Mr.
Cummings, a man who was appointed a policeman some time ago, but who has never made
a case nor worn a uniform. A hexagon leadpencil was suspended from the major's thumb
and forefinger, and with it he tapped his leg
at intervals, while resting on the table before
him was a drawing of a Greek monolith,
being subjected to the major's ratification.

"Have your officers caught Langston yet?" AS USUAL, HE DIDN'T KNOW. "Have your officers caught Langston yet?"
sked the reporter.
"Haven't heard," said the major, looking

at the clock.

"Taven't heard, said the hajor, tooking at the clock.

"Can you explain Officer Slack's conduct in arresting a man for committing a breach of the peace and refusing to take him to the station house?" was asked.

"I-er-believe-I-er dld hear it mentioned incidentally this morning, but have received no official notification of it," said the major, looking at everything in the room with a slow, lanquid air, and drawing a line through the picture. The major then shut his eyes and gave his visitor to understand that his presence was detrimental to the major's great work at hand. Mr. Cummings folded the paper he was reading and glanced out of the paper he was reading and glanced out of the window, while the reporter left, followed by withering glances.

#### A DESERVED RAKING. To the Eddor.

That gangs of half-grown boys can struct the sidewalks of certain streets of this city during no small portion of each day (Sue day included, and that within a minute's walk of a police station, while they dispute, quarrel, and fight over dimes and half-dimes lo-t and won in their little gambling enterprises, is a disgrace to the city. But the idle ness, dishonesty, and skill in securing small sums of money without giving in return therefor a fair equivalent, thus engendered and assiduously cultivated in our public streets, to say nothing of the inconvenience which pedestrians every day experience in getting around or through these promising candidates for the workhouse and the pen-tentiary, may be looked upon by most of the Washington police as a matter of very small

moment. Of course there are some men on the force whose quiet approach is sufficient to effect a short suspension of business on the part o these young outlaws and render a hurried retreat to the nearest alloy or to a new resort around the corner expedient. Occasionally one of these gentlemen undertakes to arrest a boy, but being slow-footed, and perhaps a little abdominous and heavy, while the little abdominous and heavy, while the wrongdoer is daring and as fleet as a deer the wanted offender easily escapes. Bu when the escaping wretch outruns the office of the law and dashes into a narrow side entrance to two adjacent houses, to be seen no more by his anxious pursuer, that officer no nore by his anxious pursuer, that officer-brave, heroic man—can in such case console him ely by firing a random shot into the darkness of that private entrance, imperiling the lives of innocent persons and frightening terrilly the women and children of several families. A scene of the kind was enacted about dusk one evening recently in the northwestern section of the city. But I sup-pose the policeman here referred to knew too his prerogatives and therefore acted as

Then ,there are the deaf, dumb, and blind men of the force. These are they who can, Sunday after Sunday, look for five minutes at a time into an alley which is thronged with men and women who are passing into and out of the side doors of a flourishing and out of the side doors of a nourishing liquor establishment, without seeing an earthly object; who can, on the same conso-crated day, stand within a few feet of beer wagons that are loaded with lager until scores of kogs are piled upon the great, heavy conveyances that haul them away, not only without seeing but, also, without hearing

without seeing but, also, without hearing a seund even so great as that which is occasioned by the falling of a feather.

That these friends of good government cannot speak when the men into whose bar rooms they have found it convenient to enter now and then, at least, even when on duty, tway of the same side doors, are brought trial for deliberate, intentional infractions the laws which pertain to the business it which they are engaged, should occasion ne surprise whatever. For these acasons I am surprise whatever. For these acasons I am inclined to heartily appprove of your course in exposing the strange practices which are com-mon in police circles hereabout. CITIZEN.

#### The Express Robber Tiller.

Sr. Louis, March 14 .- Prentice Tiller, the Pacific express robber, arrived here this morning in charge of Private Detective He was driven immediately to the Lindell hotel, where General Manager Morsman, of the Pacific Express company, and Assistant General Manager Shephard, of the United States Express company, were in waiting. The morning was passed in ques-

## A SAD SPECTACLE

Scenes of Grief and Horror at the Poca-. hontas Mines Disaster.

All Efforts to Penetrate the Wreck Unavailing So Far.

Trees Torn from Their Roots and the Dust Carried Across the Mountains.

The Shock of the Explosion Felt for Miles Around,

CENTRAL, VA. (via BANGS, VA.), March 14.-The news of the frightful explosion in the Pocahoutas coal mines spread rapidly throughout the surrunding section, and to-day crowds have been flocking to the scene of the disaster Your correspondent rode on the train from Central to Pocahontas with an old gentleman who had a son in the mine, whose fate he had been unable to learn, and his he had been unable to learn, and his solicitude and grief was profound and heartrending. The special train which left Central at 8 o'clock last night with the Midlothian relief party and several newspaper correspondents ran into a slide, twenty-three miles east of Pocahontas, and the party were belated five hours. The track is still blockaded, making a transfer around the wreck necessary.

hours. The track is still blockaded, making a transfer around the wreck necessary.

A visit to the mines this morning presented to the gaze a spectacle that basiles all attempts at description. From mountain peak to mountain base could be seen prominent evidences of the frightful havoe that had been wrought by the explosion. The hillsides in every direction being strewn with debris, blackened with coal dust, blown with terrific force from the entrances to the mines. It was a scene of destruction of aunihilation, and of desolation appalling to the last degree.

of destruction of annihilation, and of desolation appalling to the last degree.

The trees on the mountain side were
shriven, torn, and blasted, and their branches
scattered in every direction. Some particles
of the wreck were blown clear over the
mountain ridge fronting the approaches to
the ruins, and picked up more than half a
mile distant. Even the coal dust was blown
over the mountain and covers the action.

the ruins, and picked up more than half a mile distant. Even the coal dust was blown over the mountain, and covers the earth on the opposite side to the depth of half an inch, and the blackened and rent overcoat of one of the miners was picked up in a gulch nearly half a mile away.

All of the laborers' shanties in the vicinity were more or less wrecked, and those in the line of the mine approaches completely demolished. It is instanced that so terrific was the force of the explosion that the windows in a house of a farmer two miles off were shivered. A few minutes before the explosion occurred a train of coal cars had been backed into one of the entrances of the mines, and the locomotive had moved a safe distance down the track. The cars were sent many of them hurling down the track and others were wrecked, and the debris thrown a great distance upon the mountain side, the heavy axles being wrung and twisted into all sorts of shapes and the wheels cracked and broken. The gulches in front of the mines were filled with car wreckage.

Every attempt to enter the mines has

with car wreckage.

Every attempt to enter the mines has been attended with bad results, and in several instances men have barely escaped dying from the overpowering effects of gas.

The physicians were kept busily endying from the overpowering effects of gas. The physicians were kept busily engaged yesterday ministering to such cases. The farthest entry effected was by a Hungarian, whose son was buried in the mines. He was nearly crazed by grief; he could not be restrained, and penetrated to considerable distance, but eventually forced to retire. He reported seeing a number of bodies congregated indiscriminately in one chamber, torn and mancriminately in one chamber, torn and man-gled beyond recognition. One of the last is a gled beyond recognition. One of the youth 13 years old employed as door boy, who youth 13 years old employed as door boy, who was the pet of the mining camp. The little fellow had just entered the mines when the explosion occurred. Col. George Dodds, of the Midlothian mines, and other experienced mining engineers visited the experienced mining engineers visited the mines this morning, and made a careful examination of the surroundings. After consultation it was decided unsafe to attempt to use the fan, and orders were immediately issued to have the mines closed and sealed as the only means of suppressing the fire, which is attill burning. The regular coal drifts is still burning. The regular coal drifts are not burning, it is the fire coal at the bottom of the mines which is on fire. The entrances to the mines will be tightly sealed so as to cut off all atmosphere and smother the fire, and in one of the entrances a tube will be inserted entrances a tube will be inserted to permit the escape of gas. It is impossible to get from the officials of the mining company the damage entailed, though it must be enormous. Supt. Lathrop is unable to say when operations can be resumed at the mines. They will remain scaled for at least two weeks, and perhaps for a longer period, and when opened extensive reparations must be effected before there can be a resumption of work. Fortunately the mining company has a considerable supply of coal on hand, and will not suffer loss in the particular of supplying trade. Most of the miners killed were unmarried, the night force being mainly composed of the youngest and most vigorous men. About eight families at Pocahoutas are bereft and as many more at a distance Hampton, the night foreman, left an invalid wife and several helpless children, and one of the young men killed was the only son of a widow whose busband perished in the mines several weeks ago. The physicians

mines several weeks ago. The physicians sent up from Lynchburg have returned, and only several mining engineers and press representatives remain on the ground to-night. Pocamontas, Va., March 14.—The mines are still on fire, and the only means of extinguishing it is to close and seal them up. This is now being done, and the mines will remain sailed for probably two weeks. None emain sealed for probably two weeks. None f the bodies have been recovered.

Money Found in Odd Pinces. HOBOKEN, N. J., March 14.-Considerable surprise was occasioned this morning when Officer Kerrigan announced that he had found \$1,429 in the city collector's office. Kerrigan has been in charge of the office and last evening, prompted by curiosity, ha examined some boxes and drawers and found in every nock and corner small sums of money which aggregated the sum given above. Assistant Collector McMahon says he does not know how the money got there, but presumes that his father, who was careless, had placed the money where it was found and had forgotten it. The expert has not discovered any deficiency in Collector McMahon's accounts thus far. McMahon has

#### not yet been heard from Work of the Fish Commission

CHATTANGOGA, TENN., March 14 - The United States Fish Commission car from the Wytheville (Va.) hatchery arrived here day with 4,000 California trout, to be dis-tributed in the streams of East Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia. It is the most valuable lot of fish ever sent south.

New York Officials in Baltimore RALTIMORE, March 14.-Mayor Edson, of New York, Chief Engineer Newton, of New York City water department, and the aque duct commission, are on a visit to Baltimore to-day to inspect the city water department. About moon the New York visitors, in com pany with Mayor Latrobe, the members of

the city water board, Chief Engineer Martin, and other city officials, started for an inspection of Lakes Montebello and Clifton distributing reservoirs, just beyond the city limits. A steady rainstorm, which prevailed all day, prevents a visit to Lochravon, the great reservoir, on Gunnowicz river. The great reservoir on Gunpowder river. The New York visitors will be the guests of the Maryland club at dinner this evening.

MISGOVERNED NEW YORK.

Report of the Legislative Investigating Committee Upon the Various Municipal Departments of New York City.

ALBANY, March 14.-The assembly committee which has been investigating the different branches of the government of New York city presented their report this morning. The report stated that many of the evils found were due to defective laws, and the committee have agreed to report nine bills to remedy the evils, which bills, if enacted, will save \$290,000 per annum to the city. The committee say: "In hardly one office or department, irrespective of the political affiliations of the incumbents, did they find both honesty and officiency. Indeed, the whole government of the city, so far as examined, seemed to be in a condition which is absolutely appalling."

appalling."
The report says: "The testimony taken in relation to alleged 'deals' or arrangements by which the present mayor and the acknowledged deals or arrangements by which the present president of the board of aldermon present president of the board of aldermon attained their respective positions casts a curious side light upon New York politics, and shows, with startling distinctness, that under the present system the men who nominally hold office are not the ones who really exercise power, but that the latter, on the contrary, are generally outside parties, who cannot be held responsible to the people for their deeds and misdeeds."

The committee find that County Clerk Keenan and ex-County Clerks Butler and Thompson kept proper books, but also find they retained illegally fees to the amount of over \$50,000, of which Keenan retained \$13,700 and Butler \$36,000. The net income of the present county clerk for 1883 was found to be over \$50,000. The committee therefore recommend that the office be made a salaried one. The committee calls attention to the

ene. The committee calls attention to the fact that, "notwithstanding the enormous fees received by the present county clerk, he showed truly phenominal ignorance of oven the general routine of his office, admitting, with great frankness, that his duties as a scal politician overrode his duties as county The register's office was found producing, by

fees, a salary of \$40,000 per annum. A new bill makes the office a salaried one. The investigation disclosed that the surro-

will makes the office a salaried one.

The investigation disclosed that the surrogate's office is largely run by subordinates simply for the purpose of blackmail. The committee is unanimously of the opinion that neither the surrogate nor his subordinates are authorized to receive fees. It finds that the clerks in the surrogate's office illegally collected over \$10,000 in fees in 1893, and recommends that the power of appointing clerks be taken from the board of aldermen and lodged in the surrogate himself.

The committee recommends the indictment by the grand jury of the blackmailing clerks in the surrogate's office. In relation to the sheriff's office the committee found repeated and flagrant instances of blackmailing, and that the sheriff now has moneys to which he has no possible title, taken from the city treasury by fraudulent vouchers. They report a bill making the office a salaried one, at \$25,000 a year. The sheriff in 1893 received \$85,000. Many of the sheriff's subordinates and deputies, including most of those in Ludlow street jall, have been guilty of the most outrageous blackmail and extertion upon the unfortunate beings under their centrel. The committee will lay all the evidence before the grand jury. In the department of parks enough was developed to show that the management is extravagant and inefficient. The committee, therefore, report a bill legislating the four commissioners out of office, and making the department single headed, at an annual salary of \$6,000, the commissioners to be appointed by the mayor on Jan. I next.

In the department of taxes and assessments, although only a slight investigation has yet taken place, some very damning disclosures were made.

In conclusion, the committee say that informative has hear formative as that in-

were made. In conclusion, the committee say that in-

formation has been furnished them tending to show that some of the remaining departments in New York are in a condition fully as bad as those examined.

as bad as those examined.

After the report of the investigating committee had been read in the assembly a wrangle occurred over a motion to make the bills introduced with the report the special order for Tuesday next, but the motion was finally tabled, not two-thirds voting therefor. Another wrangle followed upon a motion to extend the time allowed the committee, in order that it might investigate the police department of New York city.

Mr. Oliver claimed that the sole object of

the committee was to endeavor to discover something for the republicans to use in the presidential campaign. He was called to order, and Speaker Sheard decided that he was not entitled to the floor.

Intercollegiate Base Ball Asso ciation. Springfield, Mass., March 14.-Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Amherst, Brown, and Dartmouth colleges were represented at the meeting of the Intercollegiate Base Ball association in this c ty to-day. The representainst year, presented their claims and were readmitted. An application from St. Johns college, Fordham, N. Y., was refused. The readmitted ollege, Fordham, N. Y., was refused. The nestion of umpires for the games was disand at some lenth, the proposition being ave four, one of whom should be a reserve. The constitution was then discussed and several amendments were offered, one of which was that the college winning the the association.

Archbishop Gibbons Repudiates His Alleged Interviews.

BALTIMORE, March 14.—Interviews with Archbishop Gibbous, after his arrival in New York last Tuesday, appeared in several papers on Wednesday and Thursday. Those reported and published interviews, in so far as they relate to ecclesiastical matters and purport to give his opinions or comments thereon, are entirely unauthorized. Some gentlemen connected with the press met the archbishop, and in conversation with them only a few remarks on general topics, but gave no expression of opinion on ecclesiastical subjects, nor on the work of coming council. The archbishop arrived in coming council. The archbis Baltimore yesterday evening.

TO Donovan Rossa's Prophesy No Good. NEW YORK, March 14 .- Not a little amusement was created this morning at the expense ment was created this morning at the expense of the dynamite advocate, Hossa. That worthy in an interview published to-day of the alleged dynamite explosion at Fulham, England, on Wednesday, said that he knew three days age that it would occur, and he could if he would tell the time and place at which the next one would occur. To-day the fact comes from London that the supposed dynamite outrage was simply the explosion of a toy belonging to a Fulham child. Rossa's pretensions to foreknowledge are at a Rossa's pretensions to foreknowledge are at a

No Violation of the Civil Service Rules Boston, March 14.—Secretary Folger has written Josiah Quincy, secretary of the Massachusetts Reform league, in reply to a communication asking if the treasury department was satisfied with Collector Worthington's course in the Whitehouse case, that the whole matter was submitted to the civil zervice commission, which decided that in retaining the services of Mr. Whitehouse a a customs officer while he was serving as a legislator in New Hampshire there was no violation of the civil servic rules and reguA SHAMELESS BODY.

The Virginia Legislature Pass Another Bill Over Gov. Cameron's Manly Veto. RICHMOND, VA., March 14.-The general assembly to-day, in view of the mine disaster at Pocahontas, by which about 150 lives were lost, and the likelihood of great destitution and suffering among the families of the victims, adopted a joint resolution, authorizing the governor to joint resolution, authorizing the governor to ascertain as soon as possible the approximate amount of money necessary to relieve the immediate wants of the sufferers, and to communicate to the assembly what steps should be taken in the premises. Gov. Cameron immediately placed himself in telegraphic communication with the mine officials at Pocahontas, and will probably decide to-night as to what he will recommend to the lorighture.

cide to-night as to what he will recommend to the legislature.

A joint resolution was adopted by both houses to-day providing for the adjournment of the general assembly on Wednesday next, the uneteenth instant. The governor has sent in a message vetoing the bill providing for the election by the general assembly of a commission of agriculture, said office having herotofore been filled by executive appointment. The veto says: "I am forced to conclude that the bill under consideration is simply designed to "I am forced to conclude that the bill under consideration is simply designed to rouduce the authority and prerogatives of the governor. The authority of the governor to fill this position is restricted by the condition that his action shall be taken "by and with the advice and consent, of the senate." I cannot see then any further limitation of the executive power is necessary or paper. If it has been abused, consure can be applied in a more direct form. If not a change of the law must imply consure that is not deserved. It is is a dangerous, if not fatal, precedent to be set, in this era of political transition, to declare, when the nominating power of the executive conflicts with the rights of confirmation or rejection by the senate, that a remedy shall be found in taking away from the governor all control of these executive affairs to which personal supervision is necessary, and for which, during the interval between legislative sessions, some one should be directly responsible."

The bill was passed in both houses over the veto.

Railroad Losses by the Floods. CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 14.- The Iron Trade Review will publish to-morrow reports from twenty-one railways and thirty-four rounties between Pittsburg and Cairo, show-ing the number of bridges destroyed in the Ohio valley by the recent floods. The rail-ways report the loss of two iron and three wooden bridges, the aggregate length of the former being 635 feet and the latter 604 feet, and it is estimated that the cost of replacing them will be \$2500. it is estimated that the cost of replacing them will be \$42,000. The counties report the loss of three iron and 47 wooden bridges, the total length of the former being 304 feet and the latter 5,904 feet, and the cost of replacing \$168,000. The grand total of bridges destroyed was 55 and the aggregate length 7,447 feet, and the estimated cost of replacing \$210,000.

Hung for Two Murders. CINCINNATI, March 14 .- A Somerset, Ky., pecial says: Frank Slagle, who was convicted of the murder of two men named Adair in a camp in the mountains near Cumberland last fall, was hanged shortly after 1 o'clock to-day. Robbery prompted the crime. Slagle passed a sleepless night, and this morning refused to partake of breakfast. Although he professed religion last night, his face to-day wore a look of agonizing distress. He denied having committed the murders, but said he was a witness of the deed, and shared in the proceeds of the robbery of the murdered men. He refused to name his accomplices. The drop fell at 1:17 p. m., and he died without a struggle in five minutes. The mother of the murdered men was the only woman present at the execution. ricted of the murder of two men named

Activity Among the Fenlaus. St. Paul, Minn., March 14.-A dispatch from Fargo, D. T., says: Unusual activity prevailed among the Fenians yesterday. It was learned that the committee gone to Manitoba had reported that there would be some startling developments in a few weeks. The Fenians are said to have 1,500 breech-loading rifles at a point within short distance of the frontier, and that as soon as their plans are completed and the time for action has arrived all communica-tion with Manitoba will be stopped. The report of the committee shows that the Dominion government has only 2,500 troops in the whole province of Manitoba.

Tobacco Thieves Arrested. BALTIMORE, March 14.-For several weeks past constant complaints have been made at police headquarters by wholesale dealers in manufactured tobacco and smokers' supplies of raids made on their stocks by thieves, and some of the most expert detectives were detailed to ferret out the offenders. To-day a search warrant disclosed a large portion of a search warrant discussed a large portion of the stolen property on the premises of F. C. Bishop, in the northeastern section of the city. Bishop was arrested as a receiver of stolen goods and confessed. Thus far four of the parties implicated in the thefts have been arrested and the officers are looking for

Pennsylvania Railroad Directors' Ticket. PHILADELPHIA, March 14.-The committee of seven, appointed by the chairman of the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad company to nominate a ticket for a board of directors to be voted for on the twenty-fifth instant, met to-day and renamed the present board, as follows: George B. Roberts, Wistar Morris, Alexander M. Fox, Alexander Biddle, Henry M. Phillips N. Parker Shortridge, D. B. Cummins, Henry D. Welsh, John Price Wetherill, William L. Elkins, William Thaw, H. H. Houston, and A. J. Cassatt.

Misguided Veterans. UTICA, N. Y., March 14 .- A major general's salute was fired here at noon to-day in henor of the action of congress in the vindication of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. At the same time the following dispatch was forwarded to Gen. Porter: "The member of the fifth army corps that loved you, and which you loved so well, are fring a salute in your honor. They feel that congress has partially righted the great wrong done their old commander."

Over 100 More Doctors RALTIMORE, MD., March 14.—The seventy seventh annual commencement of the medical department of the University of Maryland took place to-day at the Academy of Music. The address was delivered by Hon. J. Eandolph Tucker, of Virginia. Over 100 young gentlemen received diplomas.

Died from Injuries Received in the Spar-ring Match. NEW YORK, CONN., March 14 .- Oliver

Dyer, jr., of Mount Vernon, N. Y., the Yale sophomore who was injured at their games on Saturday, the eighth instant, and has been in an unconscious condition ever since, died this morning.

Schools Closed on Account of Smallpox. ASHLAND, PA., March 14.-There were two deaths from smallpox hereto-day. The public schools have been closed and other measures will be taken to prevent the disease from

#### The Weather.

Warmer, clearing weather, northerly winds basking westerly, higher pressure, Yesterday's thermometer-7 a. m., 35.85; 11 a. m. 37.9% 3 p. m. 39.5% 7 p. m., 38.6%; 11 p. m., 37.19 maximum, 39.7%; minimum, 35.8%; precipitation,

## PIRATED NEWS.

Mr Henry Watterson on the Newspaper Copyright Bill.

He Thinks Congress Ought to Give Protection to the Press.

The Commercial Value of News Defined by a Practical Editor.

Species of Robbery That Appears to be Largely on the Increase.

In response to invitation Mr. Henry Watterson appeared before the joint committee on the library yesterday to make argument and answer inquiries touching the proposed eight-hour newspaper copyright bill. His interview with the committee lasted nearly two hours. All the members were present, and by their questions evinced great interest in the subject.

At the outset Mr. Watterson said : "There has been a good deal of misapprehension as to the character and purposes of this bill, grow-ing largely out of the fact that the original propositions-first to take forty-eight hours and then twenty-four-were wholly unten-able and unnecessary. The bill as it is drawn is simply designed to defeat concurrent pirated publications. It is universal in its application. It embraces all associated newspapers and all separate newspapers. It cannot affect what is called the country press at all. It simply provides that from the hour of going to press a newspaper or an association of newspapers shall have the exclusive right to the use and profit of the matter which they have bought and paid for. For instance if a newspaper goes to press at 3 o'clock, the eight hour term expires at

This makes no bar to the publication of This makes no bar to the publication of news from the morning papers by the afternoon papers. Suppose, for instance, I publish a paper in New York, and I engage Kinglake and send him to the Soudan. He, by enterprise, great outlay, and good fortune succeeds in furnishing me a page of matter describing a great battle in that country. That is skilled labor—that is forecast. I publish this matter at 3 o'clock in the morning and a newspaper right along side of me, published at 1 cent a copy, in the present absence of

newspaper right along side of me, published at I cent a copy, in the present absence of any law, may, for the simple cost of type-setting, defeat my enterprise.

Senster Hoar. Do you men to protect the form or the statement of fact?

Mr. Watterson. You cannot copyright a fact. The mere statement that the king of Prussia is dead could not be copyrighted, but the full account which might be empraced in a hundred or more workshould be. braced in a hundred or more words should be protected. Senator Hoar. You understand that you

get by this measure security for a composi-tion—the method of statement of facts—and tion—the method of statement of facts—and not for the facts themselves? Mr. Watterson. I understand that the clause in the bill which refers to one hun-dred words means that the infringement shall embrace actual words, not the sub-

Mr. Hoar. You think that would be enough Mr. Hoar. You think that would be enough to prevent recasting and telling those facts in a different way? For instance, you take a page of Mr. Bancroft's history—some page which is crowded with facts—let some other man read that page, and repeat those facts in his own way. Historical lasts are universal property of mankind, although Mr. Bancroft may have spent great labor in d sovering the facts.

may have spent great labor in d sovering the facts.

Mr. Watterson. The time required to recast the page of Bancroft would practically defeat the piracy for concurrent newspaper publica-

extent the news is pirated. How can it be

Mr. Watterson. It is done every day. In the city of New York and in every other city you find newspapers published half an hour or an bour later than the newspapers (for instance) of the Associated Press, which are generally the high-priced newspapers, copying for concurrent publication from a hundred to a thousand words of matter from those higher-priced papers. Those newspapers habitually issue matter which is paid for by

Sherman. How soon after? Answer. With the greatly increased facili-ties for press work and type setting it is a mere matter of a few minutes.

Mr. Sherman. And then they would sell that edition of the news on the street at the

Mr. Watterson, Practically at the same time. For instance, under the present ab-sence of law I may open an office in New York at 3 o'clock in the morning, having my assistants and type setters all in readiness, and may obtain early copies of the New York papers, and may issue a newspaper containing everything that is good in all those papers, and undersell them all. I may issue this stolen property without one line of original matter.

Mr. Sherman. That has been substantially done. That is the evil from which you de sire redress? Mr. Watterson, Yes, sir.

Mr. Hoar. My question goes to the post-bility of giving redress. Suppose Mr. Smal-ley telegraphs to his paper a column of matter obtained at great expense, describing the fall of Sebastopol at such an hour yester the fall of Sebastopol at such an hour yeator-day atternoon, and how so many fell on each side, &c. Every fact in that is public prop-erty. Now, could not many intelligent mon employed in any city newspaper office read-that, and in ten minutes after reading it be-gin to dictate as fast as it could be written down, or set up, a statement of every matedown, or set up, a statement of every mate rial fact—composed and put together in their own way—so that they would have evaded every legal prohibition, while availing them-selves of every fact of the news? You

selves of every fact of the news? You remember the constitution gives us only the right to protect the author and not the discoverer of a historical fact.

Mr. Watterson. I should say that that would be no infringement of copyright because you could never prove where those facts were obtained. I admit that after a fact is published the knowledge of the fact is mable preparty. I simply mentals that the public property. I simply maintain that the method of obtaining the fact which has cost

me a great outlay — Mr. Hoar (interrupting). New is it not true

Mr. Hoar (interrupting). Now is it not true that the real thing to be protected is the discovery of the fact itself? That is what the newspaper man has labored at.

Mr. Watterson, Suppose Mr. Smalley sends a column of matter to his paper and some inferior writer sends a column of matter to another competing paper. The first is an explicit, clear, accurate account. Its value is enhanced by Mr. Smalley's character as a writer. Now, I think that both papers should be protected against each other. If need be, in their poculiar methods of stating the case.

Mr. Voorhees, I would not give a vote that

Mr. Voorhees. I would not give a vote that would crowd the little fellows, or seem to gress the smaller newspaper concerns of the country. I don't understand that that is any purpose of this bill. Yet there is an apprehension all over the country to that effect. I received three or four dispatches yesterday—I received one this morning from men. received one this morning-from men connected with the small dailies, who had learned that this hearing was to take place, If I understood you this measure would mainly apply to big cities where a good many newspapers are published near about the same heur in the morning.

Mr. Watterson. Lot me illustrate. Take a case between the cast and west. There is a difference of an hour between New York and